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Agenda item 71 (b)

Human rights questions: human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Angola, Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Chile, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: revised draft resolution

Human rights mainstreaming in the United Nations system

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[1] and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,[2]

Reaffirming also that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interrelated, interdependent and mutually reinforcing and that all human rights must be treated in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis,

Recognizing that development, peace and security and human rights are interlinked and mutually reinforcing,

Considering that the promotion and the protection of all human rights is one of the priorities of the international community,

Recalling the commitment of the Millennium Declaration[3] to spare no effort to promote democracy and strengthen the rule of law, as well as respect for all

[1] Resolution 217 A (III).

[2] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[3] See resolution 55/2.

internationally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development,

Recognizing that human rights, the rule of law and democracy are interlinked and mutually reinforcing and that they belong to the universal and indivisible core values and principles of the United Nations,

Emphasizing the need for the promotion and protection of all human rights to be guided by the principles of impartiality, objectivity and non-selectivity, in the spirit of constructive international dialogue and cooperation,

Recalling its resolution 48/141 of 20 December 1993 and, inter alia, the responsibility of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to promote and protect the effective enjoyment of all human rights,

Supporting the strengthening of linkages between the normative work of the United Nations system and its operational activities,

Having resolved to integrate the promotion and protection of human rights into national policies and to support the further mainstreaming of human rights throughout the United Nations system, as well as closer cooperation between the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and all relevant United Nations bodies,

1. *Welcomes*:

(a) Recent efforts of the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to further mainstream human rights throughout the United Nations;

(b) Work done by the specialized agencies and United Nations funds and programmes, inter alia, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, to integrate human rights into their programming processes;

(c) The steps taken by the High Commissioner, in cooperation with the United Nations Development Group and the Executive Committee for Humanitarian Affairs, to strengthen, at the request of States, national protection systems, in accordance with the Action 2 initiative of the reform programme of the Secretary-General;[4]

(d) Integration of human rights aspects in United Nations missions, in particular peacekeeping missions established by the Security Council;

2. *Stresses* the importance of ongoing efforts aimed at continuing to mainstream human rights within the United Nations system, and underlines the need for comprehensive information on all developments in this regard, with a view to ensuring an open and transparent process;

3. *Underlines* the need for wider knowledge within the entire United Nations system, including country teams and peace missions, of human rights issues;

[4] See A/57/387 and Corr.1.

4. *Encourages* the:

(a) Security Council to continue to develop cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;

(b) Economic and Social Council to continue to integrate the promotion and protection of human rights in all areas of its work;

(c) United Nations specialized agencies, funds and programmes;

(i) To continue to mainstream human rights in all their policies, programmes and activities at all levels;

(ii) To pursue their activities in promoting a human rights-based approach to development;

(iii) To strengthen their cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner;

(d) International financial and multilateral trading systems to continue to mainstream human rights in their policies and objectives;

5. *Encourages* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights:

(a) To enhance her cooperation with all relevant United Nations bodies, including the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Security Council;

(b) To intensify her efforts to integrate human rights throughout the United Nations system, inter alia, through enhanced cooperation with United Nations bodies, funds and programmes and, at the request of States, the implementation of the Action 2 initiative;

(c) To continue her efforts to improve coordination and cooperation in the field of human rights, in particular with respect to the implementation of the Millennium Declaration[3] and the Millennium Development Goals, and to seek cooperation by concerned Governments as well as United Nations agencies, funds and programmes for that purpose;

6. *Calls upon* Member States:

(a) To integrate the promotion and protection of human rights into national policies;

(b) To further contribute actively towards mainstreaming of human rights within the United Nations system;

(c) To consider urgently contributing to the joint initiative of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the United Nations Development Group and the Executive Committee for Humanitarian Affairs on strengthening United Nations support, at the request of States, for national human rights protection and promotion systems;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session.